14 June 1971

Dear Harold,

You must have read my letter too hastily, for you completely reversed my actual meaning. What I said was that non-cat-people might not understand my distress but that you, since you were a cat-person, would be aware of my state of anxiety without my needing to spell it out in detail. In any case, my dear cat died last Friday, while under care at a private animal clinic. A very large mass had been discovered near her kidney but before surgery could be performed, she expired, having become very emaciated and feeble from what was probably a malignancy of some kind.

Because of my emotional anguish and even physical devastation, I have not been able to deal with your letter of the 10th with the same care that I would normally give it. I never had very much correspondence with Thornley and what there was ceased in 1969. However, I am enclosing herewith (1) a batch of his public mailings and circulars, which are the originals and which I should like back some time, no rush; and (2) an envelope containing about eight sample passages from xeroxed copies of letters written by Thornley in 1968 or 1969, to me or to other persons with copies to me. I have tried to select the most inocuous passages in terms of content, for obviously I am very uncomfortable at being in a position of sharing parts of letters not intended for persons other than those who received them, or seeming to share your suspicion of Thornley as the writer of the anonymous letter in question. If I am sending these excerpts at all, it is with the hope and expectation that they will serve to eliminate him from suspicion, or eliminate his typewriter(s). It seems elementary that anyone writing an anonymous letter, expecially a threatening one, would be sure to use a typewriter that had little or no known link with himself. That being so, the failure to match the anonymous typewriting with anyone's known typewriting is rather meaningless. However, I did want to satisfy your request, so far as I could, since I had been unable to meet your preceding, unrelated request for the Texas A-G- materials, so here is what I was able to dig up for you.

Needless to say, I hope that the anonymous letter is nothing more than a crank letter and that there is no genuine danger to you from the writer.

Although I will be away for all of July and August, urgent mail sent to my usual address will still reach me, so that I hope you will let me know of any really major developments. But probably we will be in touch at least once more before I actually leave. Do take every care, Harold.

As always,